The Senate proceeded to consider the amendment made by the House of Representatives to the bill regulating

the pay of deputy postmasters; and the amendment was

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS. Mr. GWIN called up the resolution of the House of Representatives fixing the time of adjournment for the 14th August, at 12 meridian, and moved to amend the same by striking out the 14th August and inserting from Monday, 17th July, to Monday, the 16th of October next.

This amendment led to considerable discussion, in which Messrs. GWIN, HUNTER, RUSK, DAWSON, BADGER, CLAYTON, WALKER, HOUSTON, PRATT, and others participated, when the question was taken on agreeing to the amendment, and decided in the affirma-

tive...as follows: YEAS-Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bayard, Bell, Bright Brodhead, Clayton, Cooper, Dawson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Fessenden, Foot, Geyer, Gillette, Gwin, Hamlin, James, Johnson, Pearce, Pratt, Sebastian, Slidell, Sum ner, Thomson, of New Jersey, Weller, and Williams—27.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Chase, Eyans, Fish, Houston
Hunter, Mason, Norris, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Stuart, Thompon of Kentucky, Toombs, Wade, and Walker-16.

Mr. WALKER then moved to postpone the further con-sideration of the subject until Monday week, giving his reasons for the motion.

The question of Mr. WALKER was taken by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative: Yeas 18, nays 30.

Mr. STUART then moved to lay the resolution on the table, and it was decided in the negative by the following

YEAS-Messrs. Bright, Chase, Gillette, Houston, Hunter, James, Mason, Norris, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Stuart, Sum-ner, Wade, and Walker-15.

NAYS-Messrs, Atchison, Badger, Bayard, Bell, Clayton Cooper, Dawson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Evans, Fessenden, Fish, Foot, Geyer, Gwin, Hamlin, Johnson, Pearce Pratt, Sebastian, Slidell, Thompson of Kentucky, Thomson of New Jersey, Toombs, Weller, and Williams—26.

The question was then taken on the resolution as amend ed, and decided in the affirmative:

YEAS—Messre. Atchison, Badger, Brodhead, Clayton, Cooper, Dawson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Evans, Pessenden, Fish, Foot, Geyer, Gwin, Hamlin, Johnson, Pearce, Pratt, Sebastian, Slidell, Thomson of New Jersey, Toombs, Weller, and Williams—25. NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Bright, Chase, Gillette, Houston, Hunter, Norris, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Thompson of Ken-tucky, Wade, and Walker—16.

Mr. MASON suggested that, as the day was pretty faadvanced, and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CLAYTON) not very well, he would prefer addressing the Senate to

orrow on the veto message.

Mr. HOUSTON then moved to take up the resolution submitted by him yesterday fixing the daily hour of meeting at 11 A. M.

a brief discussion it was decided that the resolution should be taken up by a vote of 23 to 19. On the question of agreeing to the resolution it was

decided in the negative: Yeas 20, nays 26. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some time spent therein, The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The SPEAKER laid before the body a communication

ditional appropriations for the expenses of the House o Representatives for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1855; which was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed. Mr. ORR said that the debate upon the civil and diplo

from the Clerk of the House, submitting estimates of ad-

matic bill was to terminate to-morrow at twelve o'clock and, as there were several gentlemen who desired to speak he would move that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Mr. HENN hoped the gentleman from South Caro-

line would not press his motion, but that he would let the morning hour be devoted to the reception of reports from There were several other bills beside the civil and diplomatic bill on which gentlemen could make their speeches.

Mr. ORR desired the House to go into committee now as, unless this should be done, gentlemen who wished to make speeches would not have the opportunity to do so for at least ten days; for it would take that length of time to dispose of the civil and diplomatic bill. The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. ORR,

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC BILL.

And the House accordingly went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. ORR, of South Carolina, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the year ending June

Mr. BROOKS made some remarks in apposition to the Pacific railroad bill, contending that it was unconstitutional, and that Congress had no power to dispose of the public lands in any way which would not enure to the common benefit of all the States.

Mr. SINGLETON reviewed our relations with Spain. He argued that that Government had no cause of com plaint against us, for we had always endeavored to cultivate and sustain amicable relations with her. On the other hand, Spain had committed a series of aggressions against us which demanded the prompt action of the Government. He mentioned instances of individual outrages committed against us, and said that the execution of Crittenden and his companions was in violation of treaty stipulations be tween the two Governments. He would demand of Spain full indemnity for the injuries done this Government and her citizens, to be made without delay; the assurance that these things shall not again occur; and, as a sine que non, that she shall establish a tribunal in Cuba with ful power to adjust all disputes which might hereafter arise between the two Governments. If Spain should refus to accede to these propositions, so just and liberal in their character, and thereby evidence a determination to persist in her former course, he was in favor of blockading Cuba and of taking possession of the island, and of keep

ing it as long as the American arms could hold it. Mr. LATHAM followed on the same subject. He admitted that our relations with Spain were delicate. have, he said, no idea of any other country holding Cuba but Spain. Cubs, however, was like a plantation worked by the proprietor. In the course of time it must come under the hammer. We could pay a sufficient amount to lift all mortgages; but at the same time we had no idea that any Power but that of the United States should bid for the estate. In case of accident or death of the present owner we would enter as administrator. But be did not wish to be understood as justifying a forcible entry, so long as the proprietor should remain at peace and maintain friendly relations without inconvenience our property. Let Spain do with Cuba as she pleased we had no right to interfere; but if she should attempt to lay the island waste, to spite us by making it a nuisance, we should abate the nuisance. If we must acquire Cubi we should do so without noise and bluster, but peaceably If we should attempt to acquire Cuba in an unjust war, Spain would endeavor to render the island valueless by a violent change in its social condition. She might determine to set the slaves at liberty, to revenge herself on the Creoles who desired annexation to the United States. All possible means should first be resorted to for the pur-pose of obtaining Cuba peaceably, and we should not resort to force until we should be prepared to do so; and when we strike we should do so not in vain. He was opposed to fillibusterism in tota

Mr. CHANDLER gave notice that at the proper time he would move an amendment to the bill under considera-tion making an appropriation to continue the construction of the works for bringing water into the city Washington. The question, he said, had been asked why the people of Washington should not do this work them Following the advice of the Father of his Country, the nation selected this city as the seat of the Gene ral Government, and invited to it none of the appliances commerce, none of the concerns of trade, none of the allurements of manufactures, but intended it as a place where the representatives of the people could quietly as semble, beyond the noise and din of trade, and beyond the influences of extensive commercial marts, where they could enjoy that peace and repose necessary for reflec-tion in the enactment of beneficent laws. There were here a congregation of clerks, a community of persons depend ing day by day on the pittance allowed them by the Government. This was Congress's own city. The dust put out the eyes of Congressmen, and the Government paved the avenue. Congressmen could not conveniently walk at night, so they lighted the avenue; and thus he might go through all the improvements, but, knowing he might read upon some corns, he would go no further. [Laughter.

One reason why Congress should introduce water int this city was the amount of property invested here by the United States in public buildings. He hoped the Capito was not destined to be burnt again; but there was not a shanty within one hundred miles of this city such a complete tinder-box as was this Capitol. Gentlemen might look at the massive pillars and their marble cornices; they might look at the floor, laid upon brick and mortar, and say that fire could not reach them. But there was a dome over them which invited fire. There was a nest of dry materials there, covered over with tarred paper, which seemed almost to threaten conflagration w the means of a torch ; and the whole roof was of the same character. The Library of Congress was destroyed for want of water, when the Government lost \$200,000 These were some reasons why these works should be com-There were narrow streets in this city so filthy as to invite the cholera and any other disease attendan on impurity. There were narrow streets in this city

sons who had offered to construct the works now in course of construction at the estimate of Capt. Meigs, \$2,300,000.

Mr. COBB said that he was opposed to the acquisition of Cuba by nations other than our own. When Cuba should be ready, which would be at no distant day, he

was satisfied we could acquire it in an honorable manner. He was opposed to all lawless expeditions having for their bject the acquirement of that island. He then expressed himself in favor of extending the ime for the payment of duties on railroad iron, and also urged the propriety of grants of land for railroad pur-poses. Although he was a member of the select commitee which reported the Pacific railroad bill, he could not vote for the measure as it now stood. He was in favor of railroad to the Pacific, but not on the plan proposed in

the bill to which he had alluded. Mr. FLORENCE said that during his absence there had been a good deal of concern, strangely enough, too, about the course he would pursue in relation to appropriations for the District of Columbia. He did not care much what correspondents or editors of newspapers said of him; but inasmuch as his official position here had been reviewed, and as he acknowledged no responsibility to any persons upon God's earth except to his constituents, and a little to his sense of right and the convictions of his judgment and conscience, [laughter,] he considered this a proper occasion to say that he should continue to vote for appropriations for the District of Columbia when they should neet the approbation of his judgment. He felt a very deep interest with reference to the introduction of water into this city, having been a water drinker for the last fifteen years, and it concerned him very much indeed that here should be a supply of good and pure water here.

He should vote for an appropriation for that purpose. He repeated, nothing would influence him in voting for appropriations for the improvement of the District except is sense of right, and that he would vote for any appropriation that should meet the approbation of his judgment.

Mr. JAMES C. ALLEN asked and obtained leave to rint his views on the subject of the Pacific railroad. Mr. STANTON, of Kentucky, after briefly replying to

Mr. Chandler, addressed the committee in regard to the employment of military officers as superintendents over rorks. He declared it was anti-democratic, and said that military men were never intended for civil places. There was an abundance of work for them in the egitimate line of their profession.

Mr. KEITT replied to Mr. Stanton, and said that

he should make a minority report from the select commit-tee on the subject of the superintendency of the national rmories, recommending that the military superintenden-

The committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1854. IN SENATE.

Mr. SUMNER presented the credentials of the Hon. JULIUS ROCKWELL, appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. EDWARD EVERETT; which were read, and, the oath prescribed by law having been administered, Mr. ROCKWELL took his seat.

CREDITORS OF TEXAS

Mr. PEARCE, from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill to provide for the payment of such creditors of the late Republic of Texas as are comorehended in the act of Congress of 9th September, 1850, reported back the same with an amendment, striking out all after the enacting clause and substituting a new bill. The first section of the substitute provides that the Sec

etary of the Treasury shall pay to those creditors of the late Republic of Texas who hold bonds or other evidences of lebt for which the revenues were pledged coming within he act of 9th September, 1850, six millions five hunlred thousand dollars, to be decided pro rata.

2d. In all cases where the State of Texas has paid any cortion of the debt under the provisions of the act of Sepember, 1850, the Secretary of the Treasury is to refund o the State of Texas, provided the sum does not exceed the pro rata proportion which would have been allowed.

3d. No payment is to be made under the act unless a eccipt be given relinquishing all claim against the United

4th. Before any payment be made the Secretary of the Treasury is to give notice of at least sixty days by public advertisement, and claims not presented within the time limited by said notice are not to be paid.

5th. Provides an appropriation of six millions five hundred thousand dollars for the purpose of liquidating these

claims. 6th. The bill is not to take effect until Texas, by an act of her Legislature, releases the United States from all liabilities on account of the five millions stock reserved under the act of 9th September, 1850. 7th. That if the State of Texas shall not, before the 1st

day of January, 1855, either release the United States or the creditors of Texas releases of all claims against the United States on account of such evidences of debt, and cause the same to be filed in the Treasury, then and from that time all interest is to cease upon the five aillions of five per cent, stock reserved from issue to the State of Texas.

Mr. PEARCE admitted that the bill was not such as to command his entire approval; but, as it was the only one that found favor with the Committee on Finance, it was reported, and it might at least furnish sufficient groundwork upon which the Senate could construct a proper bill.

RED RIVER RAFT. Mr. JOHNSON introduced a joint resolution relating to he raft of Red river, and asked the unanimous consent of the Senate to put it on its passage. The resolution was

Resolved, &c. That the joint resolution entitled "A resolu tion explanatory of the act appropriating money for the removal of the raft on Red river," approved January 7, 1853, be and is hereby repealed; and that the Secretary of War be authorized to expend the appropriation in reference to the Red river raft in such way and for such purposes as he may approve, having in view the improvement of the navigation of Red river in and around the said raft."

Mr. JOHNSON explained at some length the object of the resolution; and, after some remarks from Mr. WALKER and others, the resolution was considered and

PRESENT TO LIEUT. MAURY.

On motion by Mr. GWIN, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution giving the consent of Congress to the acceptance by Lieut. M. F. Maury, of the navy, of a gold medal from his Majesty the King of Sweden.

Mr. PEARCE moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting : Lieut. M. F. Maury, of the U. S. navy, be and he is here by authorized to accept a gold medal recently presented to him by his Majesty the King of Sweden."

The amendment having been agreed to, the resolution as amended was read a third time and passed.

INDIGENT INSANE BILL.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill making a grant of public lands to the several States of the Union for the benefit of indigent insane persons, returned with the objections of the President.

CLAYTON rose and addressed the Senate at great length in opposition to the constitutional views asamed by the President in his veto message. Mr. SEWARD rose to address the Senate, but owing to

the lateness of the hour gave way. And the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House resumed the consideration of the bill further to amend the act entitled "An act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes," passed March 3, 1851, and the act amendatory thereto, passed August 30, 1852, heretofore reported from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, the question being on the substitute offered there

for by Mr. OLDS. Mr. SMITH, of New York, moved the following as an amendment to the substitute:
Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That this act shall con-

time in force two years, and that at the expiration of that time the Post Office Department shall be abolished, and in-dividuals and associations shall thereafter be as free to carry ters as to carry any thing else. Mr. SMITH said that he had read the bill and the sub-

stitute, and was constrained to say that he was opposed to both of them, chiefly because they too much resembled the existing post office laws. He was also opposed to both of them because they retained the franking privilege. He was aware that the amendment did not propose retain the franking privilege at the expense of the Post Office Department; nevertheless it retained it at the expense of the treasury, which was the same thing. He knew that most gentlemen received and answered more letters than they would have to do were they not members of Congress; yet this would not be the case if those who wrote them letters were compelled to pay the postage on them; or if they would do as every true gentleman did, enclose stamps to pay the postage on answers when the correspondence concerned their own business, mem-bers would not be deluged with unimportant and frivolous letters, as they now were.

He was very willing that a limited number of speeche should be sent out to the country at the expense of Government, and to that end would be willing to have Government allow every member of Congress, during the term. stamps to the value of two bundred or three hundred dollars, the stamps to be of a peculiar kind, to be used by members only, and exclusively in franking printed matter.

Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico under authority of the joint resolution of that body approved the river turned upon them could cleanse them. Water, therefore, was required for cleanliness and health.

PAY OF DEFUTY POSTMASTERS.

The Sensite proceeded to consider the amendment made

Page 1851.

He then replied to arguments advanced against the present plan, and said that there were responsible perpresent plan are present plan and the present plan are plan are present plan are plan are present plan are plan are present plan are p and entirely. He would have the Post Office Department broken up, and the people as free to carry their own letters as they now were to carry other property. He did not see why the Government should be the carriers of the letters of the people any more than the people them selves. He held that the mails could be carried by indi viduals at a cheaper rate than they were now carried by the Government, and rejoiced that the day was not far distant when the Post Office Department would be

broken up.

Mr CHANDLER opposed the amendment of Mr SMITH, being in favor of continuing the present postal arrangements. Expresses were adapted to the densely populated regions of the country, but not to the sparsely settled sections. Deprive the West of the protective are of the Government in their correspondence, and they would throw upon the people of that section the burden of a much larger taxation than they now had to bear. The Government had all the advantages of indi-vidual enterprise, so far as regarded rapidity and the

extent of transportation.

Mr. HAVEN was opposed to both the bill and substitute, believing it would be quite as well to leave the subject where it is. The substitute did not change the state of things as regarded the franking privilege. It simply proposed that members should send their documents and ed to the contingent fund of the House.

The revenues of the Post Office Department were deficient about two millions of dollars, and this deficiency arose altogether from States south of Pennsylvania, excluding the State of Louisiana. He did not speak of this in a sectional point of view, but to show that if the rates of postage should be increased to a revenue point, it would be putting a tax of two millions of dollars, the nount of the deficiency, on the postage of the Northern

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC BILL. The House went into Committee, of the Whole (Mr. ORR in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the civil and diploma-tic expenses of the Government for the year ending June

Mr. HOUSTON stated that the bill provided the usual appropriations authorized and required by law to carry the civil department of the Government. It contain ed no unusual appropriation, and nothing that was not authorized and required by law. On motion of Mr. PHELPS, the following appropria-

ions for the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska were inserted in the bill : For Kansas .- For salaries of governor, three judges, ecretary, \$10,500.

For contingent expenses of said Territory, \$1,500. For compensation and mileage of members of the Legisla-tive Assembly, and officers, clerks, and contingent expenses of the Assembly, \$20,000. -For salaries of governor, three judges, and eretary, \$10,500.

For contingent expenses of said Territory, \$1,500. For compensation and mileage of members of the Legisla-ve Assembly, and officers, clerks, and contingent expenses of the Assembly, \$20,800. On motion of Mr. TAYLOR, of Ohio, an appropriation

of \$500 was made for each of the Territories of Minnesota, Oregon, Utah, New Mexico, Washington, Kansas, and Nebraska, for the purchase of libraries therefor. Mr. PRESTON offered an amendment making appro

priations for the completion of various custom-houses. He said that all the items contained in his amendment had been affirmed by the House on separate votes of year and nays, and were based on estimates submitted by the Treasury Department. Debate ensued, in which Messrs. HOUSTON, DISNEY. and CASKIE participated; when, without taking any question on the amendment, the committee rose,

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1854.

IN SENATE.

And the House adjourned.

Mr. GWIN appealed to the courtesy of the Senate to allow him, by unanimous consent, to take up the bill to authorize the coinage of gold pieces of the value of ten eagles and five eagles.

That courtesy having been granted, the bill was taken up, and at the suggestion of Mr. Gwin was amended so as to obviate the objections offered by the Chamber of Commerce of New York. Other unimportant amendments vere adopted, when
Mr. BRODHEAD moved a further amendment increas-

ing the salaries of the director of the mint and treasurer. which he urged with some pertinacity, but subsequently withdrew it at the very earnest solicitation of several Senators, who, though friendly in the main to the mea-sure, thought it might have a tendency to embarrass the bill. The question was then taken on the passage of the bill,

and it was decided in the affirmative, as follows: YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Allen, Badger, Benjamin, Brown, Ilay, Douglas, Evans, Fish, Fitzpatrick, Foote, Gillette, Jwin, Hunter, James, Johnson, Mallory, Norris, Pesrce, Rockwell, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Slidell, Thomson of New Jersey, Toombs, Toucey, Wade, and Williams—29. Navs—Messrs. Atchison, Bright, Brodhead, Chase, Daw-

son, Dodge of Iowa, Fessenden, Hamlin, Houston, Stuart, The following is the bill as passed.

Be it enacted, &c. That there may be coined and issued by the mint of the United States, or by such of the branch mints as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct, a gold coin of the weight of two thousand five hundred and eighty grains, of the value of one hundred dollars; and another of the weight of one thousand two hundred and ninety grains, of the value of fifty dollars; each of which coins shall be of the tandard fineness now prescribed by law for the gold coins of the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the

Treasury cause the necessary dies and other apparatus to be prepared by proper and skilful artists, under the superintendence of the director of the mint at Philadelphie, for coining the above coins, with such devices, mottoes, and figures as may be approved by the President of the United States; the expense of which shall be defrayed from the ordinary appropriations for the expenses of the mint and branch mints of the United States.

United States. Sec. 3. And be it further snacted, That the said coins shall be a legal tender, and shall be received at their respective values as established by this bill in payment of all dues to the United States.

. And be it further enacted, That all laws heretofore passed which authorize any foreign gold or silver coins to pass current as money and as receivable in payment of debts be and are hereby repealed; and it shall be the duty of the irector of the mint to append to his annual report of the opeations of the mint a statement showing the average weight, inchess, and mint value of such foreign coins as are usually imported into the United States upon assay in the mint. Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the director of the mint, under such rules and regulations

and upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, to provide for striking medals for such States, Territories, associations, societies, and individu-als as the rules shall include; and the director shall cause to be struck in bronze a duplicate copy of every medal struck at the mint under the authority of this section, and shall trans-mit the same to the library of Congress to be there retained; Provided, That all expenses incurred on account of the striking of such medals shall be paid by the said States, Terfittories, associations, societies, and individuals respectively for which or whom they may be struck.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President be au-thorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, to appoint an assistant director of the mint, at an annual salary of two thousand five hundred

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That the seventh section of the act of January eighteenth, eighteen bundred and thirty-seven, entitled "An act supplementary to the act entitled an act establishing a mint and regulating the coins of the 'nited States'" be so amended as to extend the limit for the annual salary of clerks in the mint of the United States to eighteen hundred dollars each from and after the first day of July, 1854, at the discretion of the officers authorized by law to appoint, with the approbation of the President of the Uni-ted States.

Sec. 8. And be it farther enacted, That the second section

of the act of July third, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, en-titled "An act to establish a branch of the mint of the Uni-ted States in California" be so amended as to allow to the clerks authorized to be employed therein three thousand dollars per annum each, to take effect from and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

Sec. 9. And be it jurther enacted, That all appointments of

clerks and assistants authorized to be employed in the offices of the assistant treasurers of the United States and in the offices of the mint and branches thereof, and the assay office in New York, shall respectively be made, with the approba-tion of the President, by the assistant treasurer, director, su perintendent, and treasurers of the mint and said branche

perintendent, and treasurers of the mint and said branches and assay office, as the case may be, whose bonds are held at the Treasury Department in trust for the proper and faithful performance of their respective duties.

Sec. 10. And be it further enoted, That all laws now in force in relation to the coins of the United States and the striking and coining the same shall, so far as applicable, have full force and effect in relation to the coins of the laws to the coins of the coins of the United States and the striking and coining the same shall, so far as applicable, have full force and effect in relation to the coins begin and the coins of the United States and the striking and coining the same shall, so far as applicable, have full force and effect in relation to the coins borized, whether the said laws are penal or otherwise; and whether they are for preventing counterfeiting or debase-ment, for protecting the currency, for regulating and guarding the process of striking and coining and the preparations therefor, or for the security of the coin, or for any other

purpose.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That in adjusting the weights of the gold coins authorized by this act the following deviations from the standard weight shall not be exceeded in any of the single pieces, namely: In the ten eagle piece and the five-eagle piece, one-half of a grain; and that in weighing a large number of pieces together, when delivered from the chief coiner to the treasurer, and from the treasurer to the depositors, the deviation from the standard weight shall not exceed seven pennyweights in one thousand ten-eagle pieces or five pennyweights in one thousand five-eagle pi-

Mr. GWIN also, by unanimous consent, introdu bill to amend the judicial system of the United Stat

PRIVATE CALENDAR The Senate took up the private calendar, after a very rief discussion as to other business. The first bill was that for the relief of Hiram Moore and

Mr. WALKER spoke at some length and carnestness against the bill.

Mr. STEWART made a brief reply in its favor; and, after a few remarks from Mr. DOUGLAS, the question was taken on ordering the bill to be engrossed, and decided in the negative: Yeas 12, nays 20.

Mr. STEWART moved to reconsider the vote, and the question of reconsideration was then postponed.

The joint resolution for the relief of Abigall Stafford was taken up, and, after argument, was defeated by a vote of year 25, nays 18.

vote of yeas 25, nays 13.

The bill for the relief of the heirs of Capt. Joshua Chamberlain, deceased, was rend a third time and passed.

The bill from the House of Representatives for the relief of Benjamin Rowe was passed.

of of Benjamin Rowe was passed.

Mr. SLIDELL called up the bill for the relief of these claimants of the private armed brig Gen. Armstrong : which motion having been agreed to, the Senate adjourn-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. KERR, from the Committee on the Judiciary, re-ported back Senate bill for the relief of Samuel Hemp-

Mr. JONES, of Louisians, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported back Senate bill for the relief of Thomas Rhodes, with the recommendation that it pass; and it was committed.

tead, with the recommendation that it pass; and it was

POSTAGE RATES. The House resumed the consideration of the bill furher to amend the act entitled "An act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes," passed March 3, 1851, and the act amendatory thereto, passed August 30, 1852, heretofore reported from the Committee on the Post Office and Post

Mr. HAVEN said that, all amendment to the bill and substitute being precluded by the ordering of the pre-vious question, he would ask consent to move to strike out the first four sections of the bill, relating to the franking privilege. The substitute, he thought, would prove acceptable to him should his amendment pr. val.

There being no objection the amendment was enter-

Mr. OLDS then proceeded to close the debate on the bill. He believed this was a most important measure, de-manded alike by the necessities of the Post Office Departnent and the exigencies of the mail service of the coun-He was aware that the bill might not be perfect in all its parts, nor such a one as would please every mem per of the House; but it would be difficult to frame a bill

that would meet with the concurrence of all. He then proceeded to show that the deficiency in the venues of the Post Office Department, at the present rates of postage, was increasing at the rate of more than half a million of dollars a year. The committee, as one remedy for this, proposed to abolish the franking privi-lege, not directly, but that the Government itself should pay to the revenues of the Post Office Department an amount equal to the service performed by the Department in carrying matter which the Government itself had pro-vided should pass through the mails free. He estimated that the free matter passing through the mails would, if charged with postage, yield two and a half millions of cent. upon the prepayment of postage on newspapers and periodicals, which would bring \$500,000 into the revenues

of the Post Office Department.

The committee also proposed that the postage on all letters should be prepaid, and this would establish a complete system of checks and balances, which did not now exist. Pass the substitute which he had offered, and bring the railroads down to a reasonable rate of compensation for transporting the mails, and three millions of dollars added to the revenues of the Post Office Department, without any increase of postage whatever. The question was then taken on the following amend nent yesterday offered by Mr. SMITH, of New York, and

t was rejected: Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That this set shall con tinue in force two years, and that at the expiration of that time the Post Office Department shall be abolished, and inlividuals and associations shall thereafter be as free to carry etters as to carry any thing else.

Mr. ETHERIDGE then moved to lay the bill on the table; which motion was disagreed to: Ayes 25, noes ot counted. The question was then stated to be on the amendment of Mr. Haven, to strike out so much of the substitute as proposed to make the franking privilege a charge upon

he Treasury.

Mr. BENSON asked consent to move to amond the amendment so as to abolish the franking privilege entire-ly, instead of making it a charge upon the Government. Objection was made

The amendment of Mr. Haven was then agreed to : Yeas 79, nays 74. The question was then stated to be on the substitute of Mr. OLDS, which as just amended proposed three cents as the postage on every single letter conveyed in the mail three thousand miles, and tencents for any distance exceeding three thousand miles; and for letters conveyed wholly or in part by sea, for any distance not exceeding three housand miles, five cents; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, ten cents, excepting where postages have been or shall be adjusted at different rates by postal treaty or convention. It also pro-posed to repeal so much of the act of 1852 as reduces the postage one-half on all newspapers and periodicals

The question was taken on the substitute, and it was rejected: Ayes 57, noes not counted. The question being on ordering the original bill to be

engrossed for a third reading—
Mr. WASHBURNE, of Maine, moved that it be laid on the table; which motion was agreed to by the followng vote:
YEAS-Messrs, Aiken, James C. Allen, Willis Allen,

oleton, David J. Bailey, Ball, Belcher, Benson, Bliss, Bridges, Bugg, Campbell, Carpenter, Chamberlain, Chandler, Corwin, Crocker, Curtis, John G. Davis, Thos. Davis, Dawson, Dick, Crocker, Curtis, John G. Davis, Thos. Davis, Dawson, Dick, Dickinson, Disney, Drum, Eddy, Edmands, Thomas D. Fliot, John M. Elliott, Ellison, English, Etheridge, Everhart, Flagler, Giddings, Goodrich, Aaron Harlan, Hastings, Haven, Hendricks, Hillyer, Howe, Hunt, Johnson, Knox, Lilly, Lindley, Lindsley, McCulloch, Macc, Macy, Mayall, Middleawarth, John G. Miller, Morgan, Murrav, Nichols, Norton, Andrew Oliver, Parker, Peck, Peckham, Pennington, Bishop Perkins, Pratt, Pringle, Keady, David Ritchic, Thomas Ritchey, Robbins, Russell, Sabin, Sage, Shannon, Shower, Skelton, Gerrit Smith, Samuel A. Smith, Straub, John J. Taylor, John L. Taylor, N. G. Taylor, Thurston, Tracy, Trout, Upham, Vall, Taylor, N. G. Taylor, Taurston, Tracy, Trout, Upham, Vall, Vansant, Wade, Walley, Elihu B. Washburne, Israel Wash-

Vansant, Wade, Walley, Elihu B. Washburne, Israel Wash-burn, Wells, and Tappan Wentworth—94. NAYS—Messrs. Abererombie, Thomas H. Bayly, Barry, Bell, Bocock, Boyce, Caskie, Chastain, Chrisman, Churchwel Clark, Cobb, Colquitt, Dowdell, Dunbar, Edmundson, Flo ence, Fuller, Goode, Hamilton, Wiley P. Harris, Hill, ton, Ingersoll, George W. Jones, Roland Jones, Keitt, Kerr, Kurtz, Lamb, Latham, McDougall, McMullen, Maxwell, May, Smith Miller, Millson, Olds, Orr, John Perkins, Powell, Purycar, Reese, Ruffin, Shaw, Singleton, William Smith, George W. Smyth, H. L. Stevens, David Stuart, and Daniel

B. Wright-51. [The bill provided that from the commencement of the ext fiscal quarter there should be charged the following rates of postage:

For every single letter conveyed in the mail for any dis For every single letter conveyed in the mail for any dis-tance not exceeding three thousand miles, five certs; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, ten cents. For every such letter when conveyed wholly or in part by sea, and to or from a foreign country, for any distance not ex-ceeding three thousand miles, the ocean postage to be five ceents; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, such postage to be ten cents, (excepting where such postages have have been or shall be adjusted at different rates by postal treaty or convention.) Double letters to be charged double the rates above specified; and treble letters treble thore ates, &c.; every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weigh to be decined a single letter; and every additional weight of half an ounce, or additional weight of less than half an ounce to be charged with an additional single postage. Upon al letters, excepting such as are from a foreign country, the postages to be prepaid; and after the 1st of January, 1855, such prepayment to be by stamps. All drop-letters to be charged with postage at the rate of one cent cach; and all letters advertised to be charged with one cent cach, in addition to the regular postage. It also abolished so much of the act of 1852 as reduces one-half the rates of postage on news-

papers and periodicals when prepaid.]
PRIVATE CALENDAR. On motion of Mr. HENDRICKS, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar, (Mr. Skelton, of New Jersey, in the chair)

The CHAIRMAN stated that the first business in order was the consideration of the bill of the House for settling the claims of the legal representatives of Richard W. On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, the bill was informally

ecommendation that it pass.

Pending which the committee rose and reported its on to the House. And the House adjourned.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

We do not think these rumors are increa ing; they are rather dying away; yet they have re-ceived something of an embodiment and form by being noticed in the daily papers. It appears, from statements now made, that negotiatious for peace, or rather for the avoidance of war, were in active progress very shortly before the declaration of hos-tilities; and, although that declaration seemed to indicate a conclusion of those negotiations, similar endeavors of a pacific nature have been since renewed. Only a few weeks ago proposals, on the part of Russis, were made to the British Cabinet, of so conciliatory a nature that a portion of that Cabinet was anxious for their acceptance. It has been even intimated that, in order to further this result, the Emperor of the French coincided in feelings and opinion with Lord ABSEDREY. There is reason to believe that the propositions of Russia in this instance involve a virtual concession of all that the allies had insisted upon previous to the declaration of war. The anti-Russian party in the Cabinet, however, succeeded, though with difficulty, in the rejection of these propositions; and an opinion was expressed that the time for a settlement on the status quo principle was passed. It is believed that these seem ing pacific advances on the part of Russia were only feint, and made for the purpose of putting the Western Powers in the wrong for having rejected pacific proposals. France and England also, after having repudiated the status quo, are placed in the difficult position of having to arrange some other principle for the basis of future proposals for peace. This will be perplexing under the growing complexity of European politics; but perhaps not so much so, should Austria and Prussia side with Russia, as they would be were those Powers in alliance with England and France. We are told that no sooner had the status quo proposal of Russia been rejected than the Czar represented to Austria and Prussia that he adhered to his former expressed engagement to respect the integrity of Turkey, and not to seek any territorial aggrandizement at its expense. He added that his main object, the relief of the Christian subjects of the Porte, having been substantially obtained, he was now auxious for peace, and, to show his sincerity, was now willing to evacuate the Principalities without requiring the simulancous withdrawal of the hostile fleets. Austria and Prussia, we are told, believe in the sincerity of the Czar, and admire his moderation; and this at the moment when the English nation are led to calculate upon the certainty of all the great Powers being allied against Russia Thus has the Emperor Nicholas succeeded in raising new issue. The controversy is no longer respecting his evacuation of the Turkish principalities, or even the statu quo, but it depends upon some other new basis for the peace of Europe, respecting which it may prove extremely difficult to induce the contending parties to agree; dollars a year. The committee proposed to abolish so extending, very probably, to a complete new arrange much of the existing law as made a reduction of fifty per ment of the man of Europe. The difficulties of the British ment of the map of Europe. The difficulties of the British Cabinet are said to be immeasurably increased, because no definite ideas are at present entertained, even by any portion of its members, on the subject of either compen sation for the past or security for the future maintenance of peace. The Emperor of the French is said to entertain the idea that, since the status quo cannot be recognised and as no plan for the future has been matured, prolonged occupation is the only alternative, and that this must lead to the quasi possession of the Turkish Empire by foreign armies; a position which has uniformly, in the history of the world, been the first step towards partition, and which must, so far as respects this country, lead to s vast and protracted expenditure, probably in the end without any desirable results, so far as all the solid interests of England are concerned.

> nake great concessions, but he will give no material guarantee." In the message sent to the Germanic diet at Frankfort by Austria and Prussia, those Powers emphatically repeat the protest of the first Vienna protocol against any change in existing territorial arrangements. The desire on their part is to secure to Russia at the worst peace on the basis of the status quo; but this Engand and France, very justly, we think, say cannot now be agreed to. The Crar at the outset refused to trust the word of Turkey without a material guarantee, and for that guarantee invaded and possessed himself of the Principalities. He thus pointed out the only guarante which, in his opinion, could satisfactorily bind another, and therefore he must now give it in order to bind him self. A material guarantee must now be given by the Czar for his future good and peaceable behavior; but if he were even willing to give one, the difficulty would be to decide upon its nature and extent. Reports which are now current are made and circulated to throw dust into men's eyes, and blind them to the real facts of the case. In the mean time the war appears to be progressing slowly, but we think important issues are rapidly approaching. There appears more and more evidence that every thing is ordered upon a well-matured plan, and that no decisive blow will be aimed unfil every thing is arranged for its being followed up thick and fast by other blows, struck hard and efficiently. We are notified tha Admiral Narien has attacked Hangoe, on the shores of Finland, and destroyed certain forts there, and was preparing to attack another and a larger fort. A third blow may already have been struck at Odessa, and we know that on the shores of Circassia the Muscovites are in re. treat. In addition to these outward blows, the Czur has to guard against others nearer home. So much for spe culation as to the future; the absolute events which have occurred are few. As to an Austrian alliance with the Western Powers, we shall not believe in it until we see it. It is becoming a very general feeling that an Austrian alliance against Russia would be a burden to England and France, and not a help. The young Emperor may from time to time entertain a yearning to hake off the oncrous debt of obligation under which he lies to the Czar, but he is hardly master of his own actions. The Russian party in Austria comprises the vast majority of influential statesmen, and the army, as at present constituted, is decidedly Russian in feeling. The Czar, whatever he may affect to apprehend from Austria, is quite sure that his brother Emperor will never draw the sword against him. Whenever he has any serious doubts upon the subject he will raise up the Sclavonian element of the Austrian empire against the Government of Vienna, and give FRANCIS JOSEPH a great deal more to do with his crippled finances than he will be found equal to.

The Czar, we are told, is desirous of peace, and "will

The friendship and co-operation of Sweden and Denmark are of very much more importance to England and France than the alliance of Austria and Prussia, and there is great reason to hope that negotiations which are now going on between the Western Powers and the two Baltic nations will speedily eventuate in a cordial alliance against Russia. It is said that 12,000 French troops and 5,000 English have been ordered to Sweden to support the expected declaration of war by that Power against the Czar. There is some mystery in the movements of the French Baltic fleet, which, so far from yet having joined Sir CHARLES NAPIER, was at the last advices enfely moored in the caner harbor of Kiel. The English fleet anchored during its stay in the outer roads at Buelk. On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, the bill was informally passed over.

The bill for the relief of Henry Lewis, of Clinton county, Indiana, was then considered and laid aside to be reported to the House with the recommendation that it pass.

The bill for the relief of Capt. George Simpton, of Galveston, was then taken up, and, after having been explained by Mr. Miller, of Missouri, a motion was made that it be laid aside to be reported to the House with the recommendation that it pass.

Pending which the committee rose and reported its fleet is waiting at Kiel for the arrival of the French troops chant quarter of the city of Riga has been levelled to the ground by order of the Russian military authorities, who fear a landing of the Anglo-French forces.

The news from Circassis and Greece is of a very satisfactory nature. The French cruizers are bestirring themselves in the Greek waters. Along the whole Circassian seaboard, from Batoum to Anapa, not a single Russian garrison remains, and the Circassians are hang-LONDON, JUNE 1, 1854.

We hinted last week at certain rumors about peace which seemed to be very rife in this city, but which we could not trace to any very satisfactory ing on the skirts of their fugitive invaders, occupying the leserted Russian posts and making prisoners of the laggard Russian soldiers. The principal part of the allied fleet is closely blockading Sebastopol. Marshal Sr. ARNAUD has been named generalissimo of the Anglo-French and Turkish army; and he, Lord RAGLAN, and the Turkish Seraskier have started for, and are no doubt by this time at, Varua, where they will immediately hold council of war with OMER PACHA in relation to the ampaign in the Dobrudscha. OMER PACHA has asked for orcement of 40,000 troops previous to the end of May, and there is little doubt of quite as many being with him at that time. A severe battle has been fought near Silistria between the Turks and Russians, in which the latter were victorious.

> The family of Capt. GIFFARD, late commander of the British steamer Tiger, have heard from him. He has had his foot amputated, and is doing well. He is a prisoner of war at Odessa, and speaks very satisfactorily of his reatment by the Russians.

> The King of Greece is said to have accepted the Anglo-French ultimatum. King Отно has, however, it is said, made it a condition of his submission that the Western Powers shall abandon their intended occupation of the Pirseus. Unless this is conceded to him he threatens "to retire to the interior, and there concentrate his troops." "This is the first time," says Punch, "that we ever heard the Kingdom of Greece had an interior; we shall be next told of the interior of the Isle of Wight."

The Parliamentary news is altogether unimportant; the war has literally swallowed up every other interest. Only fourteen public bills had been passed to Saturday last during the present session, which has now continued four months, and very little more business will be done. The Government has withdrawn the bills relating to the disfranchisement of certain electors in Canterbury, Camoridge, Hull, Maldon, and Barnstable for corrupt conluct at the last election for those places. This gave occasion for one of Mr. D'ISRAELI'S always ready philippies against the Government. On this occasion he was more than usually personal against Lord JOHN RUSSELL. "The Government," he said, "had brought forward seven important measures during the session, in three of which they had been defeated: those for remodelling the law of settlement, for changing the educational system in Scotland, and for reconstructing the Parliamentary oaths. Three more had been withdrawn: the civil service bill, the reform bill, and the bill under discussion. One remained still in suspense—the bill for reforming the University of Oxford, which had already suffered much damage, with a probability of ultimate discomfiture." Remarking upon the weakness of Ministers, as shown by their inability to carry their measures, and on their rashness in bringing important questions before the Legislature " without the ability to settle them," Mr. D'ISRAELI adverted to Lord John Russell's personal position, and taunted him with "having deserted his party and taken a subordinate place among his most virulent epponents." Lord John Russell replied in no very measured language to Mr. D'ISRAELI, and concluded with stating that " whatever confidence the Government could obtain in that house Mr. D'ISBARLI could boast of none." Mr. D'ISBARLI replied with increased personality and much vehemence, charging Lord JOHN RUSSELL with a factious opposition to Lord DERBY's administration, several of whose measures he had nevertheless adopted. Lord John replied mildly, but very triumphantly, to Mr. D'ISRAELI's attack. Sir G. GREY deprecated the tone of the debate, and declared that the old friends of Lord J. Russell still retained their old unshaken confidence in him. Col. PEEL (opposition) disclaimed all sympathy with the personal attack of Mr. D'ISBARLI upon Lord J. RUSSELL.

Epsom races are being held this week. Of course, whatever business stands still, the Derby day must not be neglected. The House could not muster forty members on Tuesday, and did not attempt to meet yesterday.

There was nothing very striking in the returns of the Bank of England last week. The specie and bullion had decreased only £75,397. It is known that thirteen vessels are now on their way from Australia, with nearly three hundred thousand ounces of gold on board, which it is thought will nearly all remain in the Bank. There has been a great improvement in prices at the stock market during the week, and consols may now be quoted at 91s. to 914., and bank stock 204 to 206. Prices have also

advanced both at Paris and Vienna. and munitions of war continue to be shipped from the former country, and dissatisfaction and complaints to increase in the latter. The official journal of Naples contains a decree ordering the observance of strict neutrality as regards shipping and the export of war material. No etters of marque will be issued, and Neapolitan subjects

are prohibited from taking service in privateers. June 2 -The young King of Portugal is expected almost immediately in London on a visit to the Queen, and orders have been given to prepare him a suitable reception at Southampton.

The Tunisian Government has undertaken to send an auxiliary corps to Constantinople, to consist of four regiments of infantry and two batteries of artillery, numbering in all ten thousand men, four hundred horses, and twelve pieces of artillery. The French division of eight thousand men had arrived at the Pirmus. It is announced that the Greek insurrection, though quelled in Epirus and

Macedonia, had broken out in Thessaly. London Stock Exchange: Consols 911 to 914.

AUSTRIA.

On the 15th of May the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH addressed the following letter to the Minister of the In-

"Dear Barox vox Baon: The threatening appearance of things in general, the powerful hodies of troops which, in consequence of the Oriental difference, have been put in movement on the frontiers of my empire, and in particular the fact that a great concentration of troops is taking place on my northern and eastern frontiers, make procautionary measures advisable for securing the empire against all contingencies, and at the same time for defending, in the fullest sense of the word, the interests of the empire, which are seriously perilled by the present deplorable conflict, and for maintaining the position of Austria in Europe.

"These considerations have induced me to order the forces in the sortheastern and southeastern provinces of the empire to be reinforced; and I therefore find it necessary to order a new levy of 95,000 men.

"At the same time that I desire you to enter into im-"DEAR BARON VON BACH: The threatening appear

"At the same time that I desire you to enter into immediate communication with my Supreme Army Commonder on this matter, I must express my conviction that my faithful subjects will, in the execution of this measure, and of all such as may be by me ordained for the security of the empire and for the maintenance of its honor and interests, again display the self-sacrificing readiness and true patriotic feeling which they have at all times manifested."

To this the official Vienna Gazette appended an article

of which the following is an extract: "As long so this threatening conflict seemed to be re-stricted to operations on the Danube his Majesty the Emperor, conscientions in his love of peace, so repeatedly shown, did not doom it necessary to adopt in this mat-ter any great military measures. His Majesty contented himself with placing an army corps on the Lower Danube, as the point nearest to the theatre of war, so as to con-front those exentualities that threaten the frontiers of the empire and that might have arises at this point. But There is a rumor that the French intend to retain possession of Kiel as a station for the allied fleets, and that their remaining there at present is quite with the knowledge and concurrence, and probably by the advice, of the English admiral. Another account is that the French fleet is waiting at Kiel for the arrival of the French troops